

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Killeen:

Our community came together in 2007 to create a shared vision for our future. The result of this collaboration was a strategic plan we call Vision 2030. With the engagement of individuals and organizations throughout Killeen, the document brought together diverse ideas to set a clear path to follow.

Now looking back, the first seven years of Vision 2030 have been filled with accomplishment. Because of community input and investment, our vision is becoming reality.

*Goal 1: Quality Community Development and Revitalization* envisioned a revitalized downtown. The City made an investment in beautifying the streets and public spaces, businesses are making improvements and new ones are moving in.

*Goal 3: Safety and Security* envisioned better police and fire protection. A new police headquarters, more police officers and a lowered crime rate have resulted. Fire Stations 1 and 8 opened and Station 9 will begin construction next year making fire and EMS response faster throughout our city.

*Goal 5: Improved Efficient and Effective Transportation* is the most visible accomplishment. More than \$100 million of highway and local road improvement projects are in progress in Killeen adding new capacity for decades to come.

*Goal 9: Quality Educational Opportunities* envisioned bringing higher level education to Killeen. The opening of Texas A&M University-Central Texas built on the foundations laid by Killeen Independent School District and Central Texas College. Students in Killeen can now receive a quality education from grammar to graduate school.

*Goal 12: Local and Central Texas Regional Leadership* focuses our efforts on the power of collaboration with other entities. Killeen's work with the county and surrounding cities on issues such as water and roads have moved major, long-term projects ahead of schedule. Our work with Texas Mayors of Military Communities, the Heart of Texas Defense Alliance and state and federal agencies is building relationships that will help protect and expand Fort Hood.

The plan identifies a total of 12 goals. The dozens of successes we have achieved were only possible because of clear ideas enumerated in the plan which guided your city government. I encourage you to visit [KilleenTexas.gov](http://KilleenTexas.gov) and click on the 2030 icon to learn more about Vision 2030.

2015 will bring the opportunity for the community to come back together to evaluate our successes and to envision new goals for our future. It is only through community engagement and collaboration that we can create a shared vision for our city and its future.



Scott Cosper, Mayor

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

Amidst the ongoing highway projects, the city will soon begin work on two long-awaited local road projects to make new connections and improve mobility throughout Killeen.

The Elms Road Extension Project will connect the roadway from SH 195 to Carpet Lane. Elms Road will then stretch from Stan Schlueter Loop to Clear Creek Road creating a new east-west thoroughfare and relieving congestion on Stan Schlueter.

The Elms Road Extension Project is scheduled to begin this December and take approximately one year to complete.

The Trimmier Road Widening Project is also scheduled to begin in December but will take approximately two years to complete.

This three-part project will first widen Trimmier Road from Jasper Drive to Elms Road. It will add a continuous center turn lane and alleviate congestion in one of Killeen's busiest intersections.

The project will then extend Lowe's Boulevard west from its current end at HEB to Florence Road creating a new connection to the busy retail area.

Lastly, the Trimmier project will rework WS Young Drive at Little Nolan Road by continuing the center turn lane and straightening the curve in the road.

While it may seem that area road projects are endless, the New Year will bring some relief. The US 190 Expansion Project and the US 190/Rosewood/FM 2410 Project are both scheduled for completion in August 2015.

## LAY A HOLIDAY WREATH AT THE VETERANS CEMETERY

The Friends of the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery invite you to participate in the annual Wreath Project.

The Friends lead a community effort to express our remembrance and appreciation for veterans and their families during the holidays by placing a wreath at each grave in the veterans cemetery.

Your support is needed now more than ever to prepare, lay

and retrieve more than 5,000 wreaths.



Make the Wreath Project one of your family's holiday traditions.

### WREATH PROJECT SCHEDULE

#### Wreath Preparation

Saturday, November 22 - 10 am  
Killeen Special Events Center  
3601 S. W.S. Young Dr.

#### Wreath Laying Ceremony

Saturday, November 29 - 10 am  
State Veterans Cemetery  
11463 S. SH 195

#### Wreath Retrieval

Sunday, January 4 - 2 pm  
State Veterans Cemetery  
11463 S. SH 195

[www.wreathsforvets.org](http://www.wreathsforvets.org)

## REMEMBER OUR STREAMS THIS FALL

Fall is finally here, and as you clean up your yard and prepare it for winter, keep our waterways in mind. Clean and clear waterways protect our water supply and wildlife and prevent flooding.

Leaves and grass clippings should never be blown into the street. You should instead leave them on your yard, reuse them in flower beds or bag them for brush collection.

Follow instructions when fertilizing and winterizing your lawn, and don't overwater. Excess product can be washed into our streams.

Clean up pet waste. Whether in a park or in your yard, pet waste gets washed into waterways and causes harmful effects.

Our water is our responsibility. If you see anyone harming our waterways, report it, 501-7629.

## LONELY ANIMAL SEEKS LOVING HOME

Do you hear what I hear? That's the sound of a shelter animal in need of a forever home.

Puppies and kitties are always at the top of kids' holiday wish lists. There is no better place to make those wishes come true than



Killeen Animal Shelter.

Check out all the pets that need safe, loving homes online at [killeentexas.gov/animals](http://killeentexas.gov/animals), or visit the shelter at 3118 Commerce Drive.

A new best friend is the gift that keeps giving!



## FLY KILLEEN FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Travelling during the holidays? Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport offers you the most convenient way to fly this holiday season at competitive prices.

Skip the hustle, bustle and hassle this holiday season and Fly Killeen!

### I'M DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS

Reduce, reuse and recycle at the annual Christmas tree recycling event January 3rd.

Residents are invited to drop off Christmas trees January 3rd from 9 am to 2 pm at the Special Events Center, 3301 S. W.S. Young Drive.

Keep Killeen Beautiful and the Public Works Department will collect the trees, chip and shred them and offer them back to residents as landscaping mulch.

Rather than leaving your tree at the curb to be placed in the landfill, go green and bring it to be recycled.

## HOLIDAY SAFETY REMINDERS

It's not just the Grinch who wants to steal during the Holidays. Don't let him or anyone else ruin this season for you and yours by protecting yourself with these safety tips:

**Never drink and drive or ride with someone who does! Always designate a driver.**

### Home Safety

- Secure your home by locking every door (including the garage door) while away, no matter how short a time you will be gone
- Leave window shades in normal positions if you are going away, even just overnight
- Place lights on timers; make it look like someone is home
- Set your security alarm every time you leave
- Festively wrapped packages are an invitation to burglars - place gifts where they can't be seen through doors or windows

### Be a Good Neighbor

- Know your neighbors, their children and their cars
- Report suspicious activity no matter how small

- Offer to watch your neighbor's home while he is away, and ask him to do the same for you
- Start or join a Neighborhood Watch

### Holiday Shopping Safety

- Do your shopping as early as possible to avoid the crowds
- Keep your purse, wallet and packages close at all times - it only takes a second for someone to grab and go
- Lock all packages and valuables in the trunk of your car
- Always lock your car, and never leave valuables like cell phones, navigation devices or iPods in plain view

### Fire Safety

- Only use artificial trees labeled "fire resistant"
- Be sure to buy a fresh live tree as dried out trees are a serious fire hazard
- Check all the bulbs and cords on light strands before using
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree
- Never use lighted candles on or near a tree
- Make sure outdoor lights are certified for outdoor use

## JOIN THE CLUB

Stonetree Golf Club is a great place to play, shop, celebrate and eat, so remember us when you're making your holiday list!

If there is a golfer on your list, check out our full service pro shop offering the latest in apparel and equipment. Gift certificates, golf passes and memberships are also available.

Stonetree offers a unique setting for your holiday party. Rooms are available for small parties or gatherings. Call 501-6571 for details.

If you're in the neighborhood or looking for a bite to eat, Billy Bob's Burgers has a golf club location and great food.

Visit Stonetree Golf Club online at [www.golfkilleen.com](http://www.golfkilleen.com).

## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

City offices will be closed on the following dates:

**November 27 & 28**

**December 24 & 25**

**January 1 & 19**

Emergency services and garbage collection will operate without interruption.

**Happy Holidays  
from the City of Killeen!**

## BE IN THE KNOW!

Wonder what's happening in the city of Killeen? "Like" us on Facebook and we'll keep you in the know.



The City's Facebook page is your one-stop-shop for breaking news, event details, photos and useful links. You can share with friends, send us your feedback and post questions to get answers about city business when it's convenient for you. Go to [facebook.com/KilleenTexas](http://facebook.com/KilleenTexas) and "like" us today!

## EXTRA COLLECTION

The City is offering special collection of excess holiday trash. Place trash at curbside in bags or boxes at least four feet from your roll-out container by 7 am on your special collection day:

### Regular Day

Monday

Tuesday

Thursday

Friday

### Special Day

December 29

December 30

January 1

December 26

*Reminder: the city collects trash on holidays. Remember to put your can out on your regular day.*

## IT'S IN THE BAG!

Killeen Solid Waste reminds you to bag your trash. Placing your trash in trash bags before placing it in your trash can or dumpster will keep your container cleaner and prevent loose trash from littering your neighborhood.

Trash that is secured in a trash bag can make it safely into the garbage truck without the risk of loose debris blowing about.

Help the City of Killeen dispose of your trash neatly to keep your city clean.

**Please bag your trash.**




## START THE SEASON

Celebrate Killeen will start the holiday season November 29 with the holiday tree lighting and movie at Killeen Community Center.

Santa will arrive from the North Pole at 6 pm to light the 50-foot holiday tree. He'll stay to visit with good boys and girls and take pictures.

After the tree lighting, **Arthur Christmas** will show on the big screen at the Amphitheater. Bring blankets, get cozy and enjoy the movie under the stars.



Santa's  
North Pole  
Helpers

Santa's Helpers are collecting letters from boys and girls in Killeen! Just drop your child's letter in the box at the Community Center or Family Recreation Center November 26 through December 19, and Killeen's elves will make sure it gets to Santa at the North Pole.

Letters should be addressed to: Santa Claus c/o The North Pole. Don't forget to include your return address so Santa can write back!

## FEAST OF SHARING

Join the City of Killeen and HEB for the 7th annual Feast of Sharing community meal December 16th from 4 to 8 pm at Killeen Civic and Conference Center.

The Feast of Sharing is free and open to everyone. Live entertainment, fun activities and delicious holiday food is sure to spread the holiday cheer!

Volunteers and participants are welcome. For more information, contact Volunteer Services at 501-7878.

## HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

The City of Killeen invites you to spend the day downtown December 13. Holiday Extravaganza is a new event that brings together the annual Christmas Parade and festive favorites.

Holiday Extravaganza will take place from noon to 3 pm at Green Avenue Park. Free activities will include a kiddie train ride, arts and crafts, a petting zoo and a giant snow globe. Food and craft vendors will also participate.

You'll want to stay downtown for the 52nd annual Killeen Christmas Parade starting at 4 pm. The theme, "Home for Christmas," is sure to bring back your best holiday memories whether home is near or far.

More than 100 parade entries will wind their way through his-

toric downtown. The best spots to watch go quickly, so get there early to get yours.



Downtown construction is complete and the results are beautiful. The Christmas Parade will once again march proudly down Avenue D. For a map of this year's route, visit the city's website at [www.killeentexas.gov](http://www.killeentexas.gov).

For more information about this holiday event or to register to be in the parade, call Volunteer Services at 501-7878.

## LIGHT THE NIGHT

Are your lights so bright they can be seen from outer space?

Enter your festively decorated home in Killeen's annual Outdoor Decorating Contest!

Complete the form on the city's website and email it with a digital photo of your home to [rmflores@killeentexas.gov](mailto:rmflores@killeentexas.gov) by December 5th.

Voting for favorite displays will be online December 8-19. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be announced December 22.

For more information, call Volunteer Services at 501-7878.

## JINGLE BELL DASH

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell dash! The Jingle Bell Dash 5K is December 6 at 8 am at the Killeen Community Center.

Go to [www.killeentexas.gov/centex](http://www.killeentexas.gov/centex) to register or for more information on this and upcoming Cen-Tex races.

## PASS THE SYRUP

Love pancakes and Santa? Breakfast in Toyland will be December 6 from 8 to 10 am at Killeen Community Center.

Kids and kids at heart can enjoy a full pancake breakfast for \$5. Santa will be there to hear wish lists and take photos.



### MORE ON CITY HOLIDAY EVENTS

[KilleenTexas.gov](http://KilleenTexas.gov)  
[Facebook.com/KilleenTexas](https://Facebook.com/KilleenTexas)